[Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan.]

incident when some of our men, and men from Police and the Forest Departments, were assaulted by a gang of robbers from the British Indian side. Therefore, I request the sanction of the House for this additional amount to be used for the rest of the year.

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND III—STAMPS.

MR. A. LEKSHMINARAYANA AYYAR: Sir, I beg to move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 30,850 under Demand No. III—Stamps. There is an abnormal demand for stamp papers this year due to a large number of documentary transactions. The revenue in the first eight months of this year is more than Rs. 21·5 lakhs against Rs. 14·5 lakhs only last year. Stamp papers have to be printed and despatched to the treasuries in larger quantities and more paper has to be purchased. There is also some increase in the price of paper. Owing to larger sales an increased amount of discount is payable to vendors. An additional amount of Rs. 30,850 is required for all these additional items of expenditure made up of cost of paper and card boards Rs. 9,000, transmission charges Rs. 5,850 and discount Rs. 16,000. I request that the House will be pleased to vote the additional grant.

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND VII—PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT INCLUDING WATER WORKS AND DRAINAGE.

MR. I. C. CHACKO: I beg to move that a supplementary grant of Rs. 37,145 be granted under Demand VII—Public Works Department including Water Works and Drainage. Out of this amount Rs. 20,000 is required for the additional accommodation which has been provided in the new S. M. V. School and the balance Rs. 17,145 is for certain alterations and additional buildings in the new High Court Buildings. I request that the grant be made.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: I wish to oppose this motion and will adhere to the opposition until I am convinced that I am wrong. In the first place I find "Shifting of the High Court and the S. M. V. school from their present location." Speaking this day, the 17th of Edavom, I can say with authority that the High Court is now accommodated in the old Vanchiyur School buildings and the School is accommodated in the Police Head Quarter's Office. I hope it is an oversight and these buildings will not be changed. I emphasise the words " present location ".

Secondly as a matter of policy, placing this demand for grant before this House creates difficulties for some of us, for, apart from the wisdom or otherwise of the shifting—shifting may be necessary—we are here to ratify by this vote a change of policy and the shifting of the offices. I only request you Sir, that, at any rate in future, before things of such a serious nature are done, the vote of the Legislature may be obtained. With regard to the shifting, it is not within my province to say anything now. But I wish to give a warning to the Government about one matter. When large sums of money were

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

sanctioned and the schools at Vanchiyur and Nagercoil were constructed I had occasion to criticise that policy very seriously in the old Sri Mulam Popular Assembly. My friend Mr. Parameswaran Pillai will bear me out when I say that. I then spoke of the expenditure on the Training School building as an expenditure of administrative blunder. I was younger in those days. Though older today there is considerable wisdom in that kind of attitude. If such a large building is not necessary for a school it is only proper that it may be utilised for something else and in regard to the Arts College Building we find that some small office is being held there. The Sanskrit College is a very small institution compared to the Arts College. While taking to myself the credit of one of those who thought that the policy of sinking much money in brick and mortar was wrong in the construction of that building I take this opportunity of saying that if these shiftings are made and if changes in the location of buildings are necessary, this House may be consulted earlier.

PRESIDENT: Before putting the motion to vote and as the question has been raised, I think, I shall make a few observations. I fully agree with Mr. Velu Pillai's comment as to the original policy regarding the S. M. V. School as it is called. Whatever might have been the policy of previous Governments all I can say is that the policy of the Government now is and definitely will be to spend as little money as possible on public buildings, especially those connected with educational efforts. The reason is obvious. The object of this Government and of all civilised Governments should be to make primary, secondary and University education as widespread as possible and as efficacious as possible. In order to do it the less money you spend on buildings and acquisitions and the more money you spend upon libraries, equipment, appurtenances, pay and salary of the teachers the better it is, and therefore it is that I have been not with conspicuous success emphasising both to the University and the Department of Public Instruction and the Public Works Department that schools should be built which may fall down if possible within 15 or 20 years. It does not matter, because new ideas about schools and school buildings arise from time to time. S. M. V. School building, in my opinion, is the very best building in the State, so far as the High Court is concerned. The Madras High Court may be better outside. But the inside of it is much better than any court in India or in England. The inside of it is, I may say, much better than any court house in any part of the world, excepting perhaps at Nance (France). All that I can say is, speaking in the year of grace 1943, that building is notably extravagant for a high school of 800 students. The strength of the school might have been 1200 or 1800 in the last year or in the year before last and the school might have been built on that basis. At the time of its construction the materials might have been worth about fifty thousand rupees and you might well understand if such a building is built now it would cost not less than 12 to 15 lakhs of rupees. As we wanted to shift the courts before the courts reopened we had to do it urgently. In fact I wanted for the purpose, even a special meeting of the Legislature if possible,

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[President.]

It is not that the Government is disparaging the usefulness of the building. So far as the strength of the school is concerned it is wrong to say that it contained about 1500 pupils. You can never maintain discipline in such a place. That is the only purpose and I trust that honourable members will accept this assurance.

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND XIV—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

MR. K. G. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Legal Remembrancer*): I beg to move, under Demand Head "XIV Administration of Justice", for a supplementary grant of Rs. 5670 for the establishment of six Itinerant Munsiffs' Courts. This sum includes the amounts to be spent on furniture, buildings and for the pay of the staff on the establishment of the Munsiff's Courts.

MR PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know the places at which these Itinerant Munsiff's Courts are to be held?

MR. K. G. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI: These additional courts will be held at Neyyattinkara, Meenachil, Chengannur, Moovattupuzha, Kanjirapalli and Shertallai.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: May I know why they are called Itinerant Munsiffs' Courts?

MR. K. G. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI: As they are circuit courts they are called Itinerant Munsiffs' Courts?

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND XV—JAILS.

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKER: I rise to move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 10,600 under "XV—Jails". This amount is required for the purchase of raw materials for the Jail manufactures. As the House is aware the Jail manufactory consists of two important sections *viz.* Textile and Leather. About 200 prisoners are engaged in the Textile branch and 20 in the leather section. An amount of Rs. 23,514 was provided in the current year's budget for this purpose. Owing to increase of activities in the Jail Manufactory and on account of the increase in the price of raw materials this amount was found to be inadequate and a few months ago Government had to sanction an additional amount of Rs. 8,000 to meet immediate payments. This amount also has been exhausted and the Superintendent has brought to the notice of Government the need for an additional sum of Rs. 10,600 for this purpose. I request that the House may be pleased to sanction the demand.

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND XXIV—MEDICAL.

DR. S. JOHN (*Ag. Surgeon-General*): Sir, I beg to move for a supplementary grant under demand head "XXIV—Medical", of Rs. 55,200 for the purchase of medicines and instruments, bedding and clothing and for travelling allowances. The allotment of Rs. 2,53,000 has been completely exhausted owing to reasons well known. The shipping facilities have been considerably curtailed. The Medical Department was getting medicines from England and European countries

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly